



Eliseo Rosa, Mirko Guerra and Gianbattista Comiati, electronic and visual equipment technicians at IMMA, work on night-vision goggles. Rosa and Guerra have been working with IMMA for eight years, while Comiati for four years.

## Vicenza IMMA workforce honored for second year in a row

**VICENZA, Italy** – Proving they are among the best the Army has to offer, the USAG Vicenza Installation Materiel Maintenance Activity (IMMA) placed first in the 2006 USAREUR Army Award for Maintenance Excellence Table of Distribution and Allowances.

This is the second time in as many years that IMMA took top honors in the competition. They competed in the small category, which consist of units with fewer than 100 employees.

“These guys put out an outstanding, impressive number of work orders,” said Angel Roche-Santiago, chief of IMMA Maintenance Division. “The IMMA’s hallmark is its ability to identify requirements, establish the procedures and standards, and closely govern the resources expended to obtain high standards. The operating procedures in the activity are indicative of this stringent yet highly responsive resource management.”

The USAG Vicenza IMMA employs 42 people at Vicenza and four at Camp Darby; some work in the tactical shop where vehicles, trucks and equipment are repaired, others are tradesmen who perform welding, machine, paint, upholstery and woodworking duties. Whatever their position, the management and employees work closely together to improve the internal and external operational procedures that cover a total of 21 commodity areas, Roche-Santiago said.

“As the garrison and units activate, transform, or deploy, the IMMA Institutionalizes ‘tried and true’ methods and incorporates them into the doctrinally sound document,” he said.

Last year, IMMA handled approximately 11,000 work orders—70 percent were in support of tactical support requirements.

“Vicenza IMMA served as the base piece of the reconstitution while the organic maintenance assets within the 173rd [Airborne Brigade]

were off line. Eighty percent of reset and reconstitution work orders were able to be opened prior to the unit returning from block leave,” Roche-Santiago said. All the equipment, from deployed vehicles to visual equipment needing inspecting, and all maintenance is performed as quickly as possible to be as responsive as possible to the units’ needs.



Alessandro Franchi, a heavy duty mechanic at IMMA, works on a Humvee’s engine.





USAG Vicenza IMMA will receive its award in April at a ceremony scheduled to take place in Heidelberg, Germany.

“It is a proven fact that the talent and capabilities within the Maintenance Division make them winners,” Roche-Santiago said.



Luca Gianello, a heavy duty mechanic at IMMA, repairs a windshield wiper's motor on a Humvee.

Tarcisio Fattori, a machinist with IMMA for 18 years, prepares some 100 pieces for weapon alignment support stands.



Massimo Bergamin, a painter at IMMA for the past seven years, prepares an M-915 A3 Truck Tractor for paint.

Information and photos provided by:  
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